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Sent: mercredi 17 juin 2020 13:06
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Subject: BTO : DG EMPL Working Group with social partners on pharma and chemicals strategy
Attachments: Working Group Agenda_17.06.2020_v4.docx

17 June 2020

Meeting with DG EMPL and European Chemical Employers Group and industrial All European Trade Union International Trade Union House held through Kudo.

Point 4. Chemical Strategy for Sustainability and Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe

DG EMPL (contact [REDACTED]) asked us to provide a presentation on the elements of the pharmaceutical strategy.

There was a lot of interest from interlocutors who generally welcomed the objectives of the strategy. Questions from interlocutors included the following topics:

- How is the Commission planning to tackle shortages in terms of actions?
- What actions will promote innovation for unmet needs?
- Would the Commission involve social partners in the consultation process (like trade unions, public service unions – this is not mentioned in the roadmap consultation page).
- Innovation for small start ups needs to be a priority.
- How does the Commission see the intention by DE, NL to repatriate API production?
- What are the Commission's thoughts as regards promoting innovation, is it going to touch the system of intellectual property or other incentives?

In my replies I mentioned the ongoing study on shortages which will inform possible actions. I didn't specifically mention the alliance on APIs but mentioned that the Commission is engaging in cooperation with other DGs with Pharmaceutical industry and other partners in the API value chain to develop solutions.

At this point we cannot mention the specific actions on promoting innovation for unmet needs, but there is a thought process internally which is based on data from existing studies and evaluation of O/P which can inform policy options.

On the consultation process social partners are definitely concerned and we encourage them to participate in the consultation actions which are now open.

Regarding innovation and encouraging SMEs we agree that actions go beyond pharma. This is why the strategy follows a holistic approach which includes, funding & capital venture, better connection of academic knowledge and industry, knowledge upscaling, regulatory simplification and finally evaluation of the existing incentives.

END